

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29492 / H0600

This legislation addresses the filling of judicial vacancies. (1) It changes the way the members of the Judicial Council are chosen. Currently the Idaho State Bar appoints three lawyers to the Council, comprising half of its membership. This legislation changes that process so the Bar recommends a slate of lawyers from which the Governor will appoint those three members to the Council. The Governor retains authority to appoint the other half of the Council who are non-lawyers. (2) This also allows the Governor to reject a slate of nominees provided by the Judicial Council to fill a judicial vacancy. (3) It also makes public information concerning the applicants to fill a judicial vacancy who are on a slate of applicants provided to the Governor for appointment.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation should have little or no fiscal impact to the state or local governments. If a slate of candidates for appointment to the Council is rejected by the Governor, an additional recruitment and evaluation process will be necessary but that should be covered without the need for additional funds for the Council.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).